

## **REMARKS**

### **I. Status of the Application**

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration of the rejections set forth in the Office Action of August 5, 2010 is respectfully requested.

By this amendment, claim 34 has been amended and claims 25-33 and 41-43 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter contained therein. Claims 22 and 34-40 are now pending in the application. No new matter has been added by these amendments.

### **II. Prior Art Rejections and Allowable Subject Matter**

Currently, claims 25-42 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable under various prior art rejections. Claim 22 has been allowed and claim 43 has been indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

Independent claim 34 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 43, including the subject matter recited in intervening claims 41 and 42, and thus should be allowable as indicated by the Examiner. Claims 35-40 depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 34 and are thus allowable at least by virtue of their dependencies. Claim 22 has been allowed, and is not amended by this response.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, inasmuch as all of the outstanding issues have been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and action to such effect is earnestly solicited. Should any issues remain after consideration of the response, however, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the Examiner's convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

Hideki UCHIDA et al.

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